

Vernon College
Assessment Activity/Report Communication Form
2014-2015

Title: Discipline Evaluation Committee

Date of completion: 07-01-2015

Please circle or highlight: Assessment Activity

Report

Both

Highlights of data:

2014-2015 Discipline Evaluation

Summary

Agriculture

The committee recommends that the Agriculture discipline be continued without probation. The committee identified two minor weaknesses: enrollment of less than 12 per course (11.72) and the discipline cost per contact hour is more than the legislatively approved contact hour reimbursement rate (\$7.77 vs. \$2.80). However, the discipline has shown improvement in overall enrollment rates in the last two years. The full time instructor for the discipline has made great strides in recruitment and has gained support in the Vernon College service area.

Biology

The committee recommends that the Biology discipline be continued without probation. There were no deficiencies found in the discipline and the committee found them to be excellent in the areas of Facilities, enrollment, rationale of sequence of courses and assessment of core outcomes. The committee further recognizes that the report was well written with attention to detail in all areas.

Education

Because of the declining numbers in the discipline and the cost of the discipline, the committee recommends that the discipline be continued with probation.

This discipline review overall was well written and the discipline was given excellent ratings in the areas of changes to the discipline and the QEP. The full time faculty strives to stay current with current techniques and has made improvements to the curriculum through the integration of notes and videos in Blackboard.

The committee noted two major weaknesses in the discipline, both of which are related to class size. The average class size in the discipline has steadily declined over the last five years to a 9.6 average in 2013-2014. The second major weakness identified is the cost of the discipline, which is largely a function of the small class sizes. The committee was extremely concerned with the cost per contact hour for the discipline. The cost of \$9.90 per contact hour

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far exceeds the \$2.53 actual reimbursement rate from the state. The committee feels that any further loss of students in the future will result in a net loss for the discipline.

History

The committee recommends that the History discipline be continued without probation. In addition, the committee recognizes the excellent work of the History department when writing this report. The report was well thought out and received eight excellent ratings by the committee.

Spanish

The committee recommends that the Spanish discipline be continued without probation. The committee found no deficiencies in the program and rated the program as excellent in three areas.

Speech

The committee recommends that this program be continued without probation. The committee noted several areas of excellence in this discipline including the relationship with other disciplines, advising, and library resources. The discipline had a noteworthy goal of implementing IPADS into the classroom. The committee suggest that the discipline considers applying for a Vernon College Foundation Grant to fund the IPAD initiative. No deficiencies were noted by the committee in this discipline.

Use of data:

The process determines strengths and weaknesses of disciplines. Disciplines that have weaknesses are given to opportunity to fix any weaknesses and the discipline is evaluated again in two years.

How associated to Student Success?

This process reviews the effectiveness of Disciplines using a 5 year cycle. The report for each discipline is written by faculty members which gives each discipline the opportunity to identify weaknesses and strengths.

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Where the report can be found: Dean of Instructional Services Office

Submitted by: Greg Fowler **Date:** 7-01-2015
(Responsible Party)

Received by Office of Quality Enhancement: July 1, 2015
(Date)

Presented to SSBTN Committee*: July 2, 2015
(Date)

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